

The Romulus News

FEBRUARY 24, 2006 – MARCH 9, 2006

"the little paper"

VOLUME 19 NUMBER 15

Timely Tidbits ...

4 Will Appear on School Board Ballot

A total of four names will appear on the ballot for the Romulus Community Schools' annual school board election on Tuesday, May 2.

Incumbents Kenneth Mientkiewicz and Celeste Roscoe will vie with challengers Danielle Funderburg and Eugene Robinson for the two available seats.

A fifth potential candidate, Leo Knasiak, filed paperwork and paid a \$100 fee (in lieu of soliciting petition signatures) before the February 7 filing deadline, but Wayne County election officials rejected his application, which was deemed incomplete, said Romulus City Clerk Linda Choate.

District residents who would like to participate in the election, but have not yet registered to vote, must do so by Monday, April 3, in order to be eligible.

Voters who want to learn more about this year's candidates should watch for their responses to *TRN's* candidate questionnaire, which will appear in an upcoming issue of "the little paper."

Quilt Exhibit Wraps Up

The display of antique and contemporary quilts at the historic Kingsley house (11137 Hunt Street, across from the post office) will continue each Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. through March 31. Admission is free.

For more information, contact Romulus Historical Museum director Pearl Varner at 734-697-9628.

Bird Fair at RHS

The Rainbow Feathers Bird Club will host its ninth annual Bird Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 19, at Romulus High School (9650 Wayne Road, just north of I-94). The event will feature exotic birds from around the world, as well as the sale of birds and related products, a craft show, and raffle prizes.

Admission is \$3 for adults; children 12 and under get in free.

For more info, call Dave or Tammy at 734-422-5981. □

Maria Lambert Is Chamber's Person of the Year

The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce has named Maria Lambert as the 21st Romulus Person of the Year. A dinner recognizing Lambert for her contributions to the community will be held on Friday, March 10, at the Crowne Plaza (8000 Merriman Road, Romulus).

Lambert – a longtime resident and Romulus High School alumna – has devoted herself to Romulus both professionally and personally. Employed by the City as director of the Downtown Development Authority, she was instrumental in securing grant funding for the newly constructed Romulus Senior Center, and also worked to obtain grants for the restoration of buildings in Romulus Historical Park.

Lambert's involvement in community affairs also includes extensive work with a number of civic groups. She serves as the chairwoman of the Romulus Arts Council, which hosts events like mystery dinners, operatic performances, and "Art in the Park," and also sponsors scholarships for worthy high-school graduates. Through her involvement with the Romulus Beautification Committee, Lambert helps to plant flowers downtown each spring and to oversee an annual city-wide cleanup program. As a founding member of the Romulus Pumpkin Festival Committee, she has played an enormous part in that event's overwhelming growth and success since



Maria Lambert (second from right), named Person of the Year by the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce, was congratulated by Person of the Year Committee members (from left) David Paul, Mark Lewkowicz, and Gil White.

its humble beginnings nearly a decade ago. And as the parent (with late husband Russell) of three children who graduated from Romulus schools, she was active with the Romulus Band Boosters, a group that has made significant contributions to the Romulus Community Schools band program over the years.

"Maria embodies the spirit of Romulus, and it is obvious that she loves this community," said Person of the Year Committee member Mark Lewkowicz.

"She is well liked and respected by everyone who comes in contact with her. She has the ability to make things happen."

The Chamber's Person of the Year recognition program will begin with a reception at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. A cash bar will be available. Tickets (\$35 per person) may be purchased from the Chamber office through Friday, March 3. For more information, please call 734-326-4290. □

Well Company's Doors May Be Open for Good

By Kristi Stephens

After more than 12 years of legal battles, Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc., may have opened its doors for good. The company – which has fought to operate a hazardous-waste treatment, storage, and disposal facility in Romulus since 1993 – received the last of its required permits on December 27, 2005, and is now accepting liquid wastes for deep-well injection into the Mt. Simon Formation, a layer of sandstone about 4,000 feet below the surface of the Earth.

Both the Environmental Protection Agency, which is primarily responsible for regulating the injection-well portion of the EDS facility, and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, which is chiefly concerned with the company's above-ground operations, say that the Citrin Drive facility is safe.

Harold R. Fitch, director of the DEQ's Office of Geological Survey, is among those who vouch for the safety of deep-well technology. According to Fitch, injection wells have been operating in Michigan since the early 1950s and, during that time, "no significant environmental damage" has been associated with their use.

One of the chief advantages of deep-well injection, proponents say, is that it offers superior protection for underground sources of drinking water. Unlike above-ground disposal methods, which can leak wastes into USDWs that are rarely more than 300 feet below the surface, deep wells inject wastes nearly a mile underground, where they are separated from USDWs by thousands of feet of impermeable rock that lie between.

Despite EPA and DEQ claims about deep-well safety, many elected officials

and residents of Romulus are opposed to the EDS facility, and the City has been involved in a number of lawsuits against the company since 1993. Although all previous litigation has ultimately ended in favor of EDS, the City has now pinned its hopes on a lawsuit recently filed by Sunoco, which operates a liquid petroleum gas (LPG) storage and transfer facility in Taylor.

Currently, Sunoco's Taylor facility stores LPGs in caverns about 1,200 to 1,500 feet underground. These caverns are filled with brine, which is displaced when LPGs are pumped into the caverns via a system of pipes. The brine is stored elsewhere until the company needs to remove LPGs from storage. The brine is then pumped back into the caverns to displace the LPGs, which return to the surface through the pipes.

continued on page 3

The Editor's Opinion

Continued Opposition to EDS Sends Wrong Message to Prospective Developers

By Kristi Stephens

If the City of Romulus expects to be taken seriously by big developers, it had better reconsider its continued opposition to Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc.

By joining Sunoco's latest lawsuit against EDS, our city is again sending a message that building in Romulus is a risk because you never know when you're going to have the proverbial rug yanked from under you.

Back in 1990, when EDS first appeared before City Council to pitch its proposal to build a hazardous-waste disposal well in Romulus, there was no mention of lawsuits; quite the contrary, in fact. Then-Mayor Beverly McAnally – addressing the need for responsible waste disposal, and also welcoming the opportunity to enrich City coffers with the \$500,000 annual royalty that EDS voluntarily offered – said, "I think it could be a real benefit to the community." The City issued various permits for water, electrical, and other work performed at the company's original well site on Wahrman Road, and many elected officials toured the site as work progressed. City attorney Barry Seifman wrote multiple opinions acknowledging that federal and state agencies preempted local regulation of hazardous waste.

By August 1993, EDS had completed its well, at a cost of more than a million dollars, without one threat of opposition from City authorities. And then the company became a political hot potato in that fall's City elections.

Afraid that their failure to fight EDS would cost them re-election, City Council members (at the urging of Mayor McAnally) voted to file a zoning-based lawsuit against EDS. (This statement is supported by sworn affidavits from then-Councilmen Jimmie Raspberry, Noah "Pete" Bergeron, and the late Ellis Pennington.) It was the first of many legal challenges that the company faced, and eventually won, over the years. In the interim, EDS bent over backwards to accommodate every *legitimate* concern expressed by elected officials and citizens, abandoning its original site on Wahrman Road for more "appropriate" zoning on Citrin Drive, and making numerous other concessions such as agreeing to limit the number of trucks going into its facility. Altogether, the company spent about \$40 million in pursuit of its legal right to operate – and the City of Romulus wasted more than \$1 million in legal fees to fight it.

That's enough to give pause to *any* developer – especially one building a controversial project like a casino or a racetrack. Why risk a turn in the political tide when there are dozens of other communities smart enough to welcome developers (and their revenue) with open arms?

Thankfully, this is an issue that more-disinterested heads understand. In fact, in a recent order denying one of Sunoco's motions for a preliminary injunction against EDS, Federal Court Judge Nancy G. Edmunds stated, "In order for this State to attract and keep businesses, particularly in this difficult economic climate, it must not only ensure that federal and state statutory and regulatory guidelines are followed, but also that once those guidelines are satisfied an entity can in fact begin to operate. A company like EDS, which has played by the rules for over ten years, gone through a number of permitting processes, done everything asked of it by every applicable governmental entity, and in the process has expended approximately \$40,000,000, must be allowed now to do business. Otherwise, EDS and other small and medium sized businesses (which employ the majority of Michigan citizens) will have no confidence they will get treated fairly in Michigan if they do what is asked of them."

Of course, if EDS actually posed a significant threat to the community's health and safety, no price would be too great to battle it ... but that's not the case. The wastes that the company accepts are relatively innocuous liquids that are often more than 90% water – *not* radioactive, *not* flammable or explosive, and *not* biological/medical in origin.

Romulus already has several facilities that pose much bigger hazards – including EQ Resource Recovery, now well known to residents after last year's massive explosion/fire, and High-Po-Chlor, a company which deals with such deadly chemicals that an accident could necessitate a city-wide evacuation. Yet those companies operated, unchallenged, for years.

To those concerned that EDS will be disposing of waste from Canada, I urge you to read the "Letter to the Editor" on page 3. This letter – obtained through a recent FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) request to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality – clearly states that, in 2004, Michigan exported four times more hazardous waste to Canada than it imported.

Four times more.

Our state legislators make such a fuss about keeping Canadian trash out of Michigan, but you never hear a peep about the waste we send in return. If we're going to pursue a policy that makes each government responsible for its own waste, then Michigan is going to need facilities like EDS to dispose of the hundreds of thousands of tons that we generate each year.

It's time to get over our NIMBY (Not in My Back Yard) attitude. Again, Judge Edmunds lends her more-objective perspective: "[I]f the nation is ever to manage its problems with hazardous and toxic substances, public interest cannot be determined simply by a community which would prefer that the wastes in question be disposed of elsewhere."

We need to own up to the fact that we make the waste, so it's our responsibility to dispose of it. EDS can help us do that with technology that's been safely used in Michigan for more than 50 years.

And, by ending our opposition to a company which has every legal right to be here, we'll be showing other prospective developers that Romulus is a trustworthy community which they can confidently call home. □

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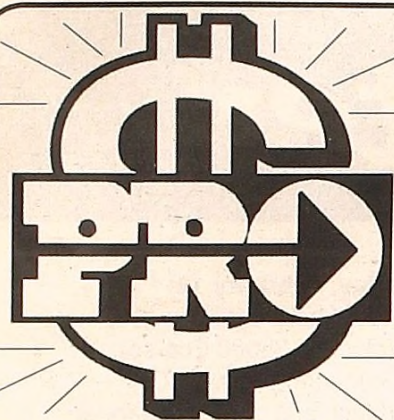
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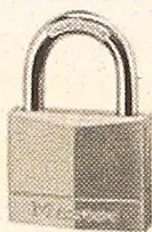
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Letter to the Editor

Hazardous Waste Exports To Canada Are Four Times Greater Than Imports

Editor's note: The following letter from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's Waste and Hazardous Materials Division – dated February 14, 2006 – was obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request submitted by The Romulus News on February 13, 2006.

Re: FOIA request for Import/Export Data (Canada/Michigan)

The 2005 data will not be ready until March 2006.

In 2004, the state of Michigan imported from Canada 11,169 tons of hazardous waste. The same year we exported 48,318 tons of hazardous waste to Canada.

If you have any other questions, please contact me at 517-373-6049. Thank you.

Lee Petrovich □

EDS May Be Open for Good

continued from page 1

Although Sunoco's Taylor facility already has a storage capacity of about one million barrels of LPGs, the company says it wants to expand that capacity in the future. Since the Mt. Simon Formation represents a potential storage area for additional brine, Sunoco wants to prevent EDS from using it for waste disposal. To that end, Sunoco has filed suit against the DEQ, challenging the permits issued to EDS, and the City of Romulus has joined the lawsuit as an intervenor.

"We were very disappointed to hear [that the DEQ gave EDS permission to operate]," said Mayor Alan R. Lambert. "Thousands of Romulus citizens, citizens from neighboring communities like Taylor, and experts from all over south-

east Michigan have been opposing this well for 14 years.

"The citizens of Romulus have spent a great deal of time and money in the legal battle against this well," he added. "It is a shame that the MDEQ did not follow the recommendations of its own Site Review Board, which recommended against the issuance of the permit."

Although Sunoco's current litigation against the DEQ resulted in a temporary stay order that shut down EDS for several days during the month of January, that order has since been lifted by Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Cynthia Stephens, allowing EDS to continue its operations while the lawsuit goes forward.

Neither EDS nor Sunoco returned calls asking for comment. □

Curves Food Drive Feeds Hungry While Promoting Fitness, Weight Loss

Curves of Romulus has announced that it will be participating in the eighth annual Curves Food Drive to benefit local food banks like the Helping Hand of Romulus.

Last year, the Curves Food Drive collected 10.6 million pounds of food for local communities all around the world – an increase of nearly three million pounds over the year before.

To celebrate the generosity of communities like Romulus, Curves is waiving its normal service fee for any new member who brings in a bag of nonperishable groceries and joins between February 27 and March 11, 2006. Last year, more than 251,000 new members joined Curves during the food drive.

Others wishing to donate may drop off nonperishable food items at Curves of Romulus (located at 36015 Goddard, Suite #200) during normal

business hours any Monday through Saturday in the month of March.

"The Curves Food Drive promotion is always exciting," said Helen McNally, owner of the Romulus club. "We have a chance to help so many people at a time when the food banks are at their lowest – and, at the same time, assist more women in reaching their fitness and weight-loss goals."

"It's a win-win situation for everyone, and we're very proud to participate," she added.

With nearly 10,000 locations worldwide, Curves is the largest fitness franchise and the fastest-growing franchise company in history. More than four million women belong to the Curves community.

For more information about the eighth annual Curves Food Drive or Curves of Romulus, contact McNally at 734-941-0900. □

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The Police Blotter

Thanks to Sergeant Bryan Cozzaglio for submitting the following summary of the Romulus Police Department's significant activity from Monday, February 6, through Sunday, February 19. (Information is in the following format: date, time, type of call, and general location.)

Monday, February 6

- 12:56 a.m. – Fight (block of 7640 Merriman)
- 2:26 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 7050 Niagara)
- 10:39 a.m. – Breaking & Entering (B&E) (block of 30000 Ecorse)
- 11:26 a.m. – Larceny (block of 16700 Braeburn Dr.)
- 12:27 p.m. – Recovered Stolen Vehicle (block of 6140 E. Alexander)
- 12:30 p.m. – Threats (block of 8620 Wahrman)
- 2:19 p.m. – Larceny (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 2:20 p.m. – Assault & Battery (A&B) (block of 15200 Meadow)
- 2:47 p.m. – Property Damage/Malicious Destruction of Property (PD/MDOP) (block of 15200 Meadow)
- 3:44 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 36600 Goddard)
- 3:47 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 10200 Middlebelt)
- 11:59 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 36400 Goddard)

Tuesday, February 7

- 1:58 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 11000 Moore)
- 6:49 a.m. – Larceny (block of 8600 Wickham)
- 9:28 a.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 9200 Vining)
- 9:53 a.m. – Panic Alarm (block of 6330 Dexter)
- 10:29 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 15200 Meadow)
- 2:45 p.m. – Bad Checks (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 4:36 p.m. – Man with a Weapon (block of 28400 Leroy)
- 5:14 p.m. – Fight (block of 6380 Cogswell)
- 6:30 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 9:41 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 9510 Biddle)

Wednesday, February 8

- 1:16 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 7840 Middlebelt)
- 1:53 a.m. – Operating Under the Influence of Liquor (OUIL) (block of 33400 Eureka)

- 3:11 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 39300 Pueblo)
- 3:55 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 15300 Woodmont)
- 9:24 a.m. – Fight (block of 15000 Brandt)
- 9:40 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 8950 Gabriel)
- 10:51 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 29900 Beverly)
- 1:54 p.m. – A&B (block of 37300 Wick)
- 4:14 p.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 7300 Taft)
- 5:01 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 6240 Edmund)
- 5:46 p.m. – Unlawful Driving Away of an Automobile (UDAA) (block of 38000 E. I-94)
- 11:32 p.m. – Mental Incapacitation (block of 15500 Orchard)

Thursday, February 9

- 7:38 a.m. – Rescue (block of 33900 Ecorse)
- 7:52 a.m. – Harassment Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 10:41 a.m. – Larceny (block of 28600 Northline)
- 10:50 a.m. – Fraud Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 12:34 p.m. – Larceny (block of 31500 Wick)
- 3:22 p.m. – B&E (block of 30000 Halecreek)
- 3:46 p.m. – Missing Person (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 4:53 p.m. – Neighbor Trouble (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 11:49 p.m. – JC/R (block of 15700 Taft)

Friday, February 10

- 12:17 a.m. – JC/R (block of 6190 Swan Lake Dr.)
- 8:10 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 15800 Knurlwoode)

- 9:45 a.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 6730 Cypress)
- 11:26 a.m. – Threats (block of 35500 N. Alexander)
- 1:57 p.m. – Larceny (block of 6340 Middlebelt)
- 2:00 p.m. – Missing Person (block of 5910 Newberry)
- 4:13 p.m. – UDAA (block of 7780 Merriman)
- 4:15 p.m. – A&B (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 7:13 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 15000 Mountain Way)
- 9:28 p.m. – Threats (block of 9340 Terry)

Saturday, February 11

- 2:36 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 5850 Metro)
- 3:36 a.m. – OUIL (block of 27400 W. I-94)
- 3:55 a.m. – B&E (block of 27400 Eureka)
- 7:35 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 9370 Terry)
- 11:56 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6300 Fourth)
- 11:58 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 8230 Merriman)
- 2:04 p.m. – Hunting Complaint (block of 16700 Wahrman)
- 5:28 p.m. – OUIL (block of 8200 Hollywood)
- 7:15 p.m. – JC/R (block of 12000 Hannan)
- 8:40 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 7100 Wayne)
- 9:49 p.m. – A&B (block of 9300 Wayne)
- 10:04 p.m. – Larceny (block of 9320 Essex)
- 10:52 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 28000 Leroy)
- 11:43 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 9310 Wayne)

Sunday, February 12

- 12:24 a.m. – B&E (block of 35000 Ecorse)
- 3:01 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 6100 E. Alexander)
- 4:09 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 9320 Washington)
- 4:56 a.m. – Threats (block of 9320 Washington)
- 12:41 p.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 6340 Irma)
- 1:26 p.m. – Larceny (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 3:10 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 7800 Surrey Dr.)
- 3:51 p.m. – A&B (block of 15000 Plain Way)
- 3:53 p.m. – A&B (block of 8350 Wahrman)
- 5:14 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 15000 Brookway)
- 5:43 p.m. Larceny (block of 8000 Merriman)

Monday, February 13

- 2:22 a.m. – B&E (block of 8400 Wayne)
- 6:35 a.m. – Missing Person (block of 15700 Taft)
- 7:15 a.m. – Rescue (block of 29200 Whisper Ct.)
- 7:37 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 6340 Hunt)
- 12:42 p.m. – Death Investigation (block of 7500 Cogswell)
- 1:46 p.m. – A&B (block of 9350 Washington)
- 2:15 p.m. – Larceny (block of 15800 Oakbrook)
- 2:49 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 7320 Dodge)
- 4:32 p.m. – UDAA (block of 15000 Mesa Way)
- 4:54 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 9510 Biddle)

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The Police Blotter

continued from page 4

- 5:26 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 9800 Wayne)
- 6:50 p.m. – B&E (block of 39200 Tyler)
- 8:46 p.m. – Recovered Stolen Vehicle (block of 15100 Mesa Way)
- 9:54 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 30500 Dru)
- 10:01 p.m. – Shots Fired (block of 7080 Niagara)
- 10:40 p.m. – Threats (block of 15400 Taft)

Tuesday, February 14

- 7:57 a.m. – B&E (block of 33400 Bay Hill Dr.)
- 8:31 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 13200 Homefield)
- 11:29 a.m. – Missing Person (block of 5910 Newberry)
- 11:42 a.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 9300 Wayne)
- 3:27 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 30500 Ecorse)
- 6:51 p.m. – Larceny (block of 36400 Van Born)
- 8:47 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6020 Metro)
- 9:03 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 15000 Brandt)

Wednesday, February 15

- 8:25 a.m. – Fight (block of 37300 Wick)
- 1:07 p.m. – JC/R (block of 15000 N. I-275)
- 1:44 p.m. – UDAA (block of 28900 Highland)
- 4:52 p.m. – Threats (block of 5800 Panam)
- 5:37 p.m. – OUIL (block of 5800 Wayne)

Thursday, February 16

- 2:48 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 15700 Anthony)
- 8:15 a.m. – UDAA (block of 8590 Wahrman)
- 9:36 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 6060 Metro)
- 10:15 a.m. – Fraud Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 3:03 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 30500 Halecreek)
- 3:36 p.m. – Threats (block of 28000 Wick)
- 5:01 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 13200 Middlebelt)
- 5:39 p.m. – Neighbor Trouble (block of 36600 Goddard)
- 8:09 p.m. – Disturbance (block 15500 Harrison)
- 8:46 p.m. – B&E (block of 34000 Pine Wood Cir.)
- 11:06 p.m. – B&E (block of 13700 Huron River Dr.)
- 11:30 p.m. – OUIL (block of 36800 Ecorse)

Friday, February 17

- 6:06 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 9000 Wickham)
- 8:12 a.m. – B&E (block of 6690 Ball)

- 10:10 a.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 6790 Merriman)
- 12:53 p.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 5840 Second)
- 4:04 p.m. – JC/R (block of 36500 Goddard)
- 4:32 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 5:12 p.m. – JC/R (block of 10600 Shook)
- 9:33 p.m. – B&E (block of 39100 Nottingham Dr.)

Saturday, February 18

- 12:43 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 15000 Harrison)
- 5:14 a.m. – Fight (block of 9090 Wickham)
- 7:33 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 35400 Smith)
- 10:16 a.m. – A&B (block of 29100 Ecorse)
- 5:15 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 9450 Biddle)
- 10:42 p.m. – OUIL (block of 29400 Van Born)
- 11:17 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 8800 Wickham)

Sunday, February 19

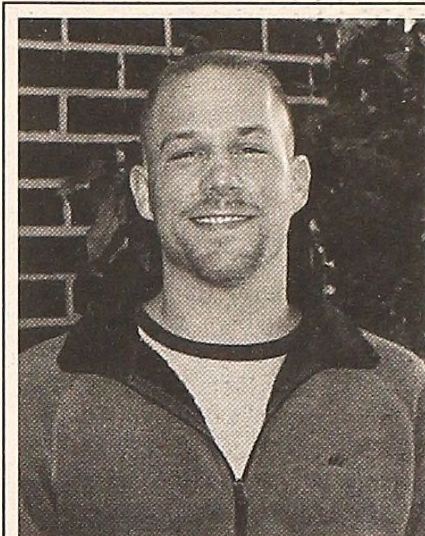
- 1:30 a.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 37400 Castle Dr.)
- 1:41 a.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 37400 McBride)
- 2:37 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 31300 Ecorse)
- 5:25 a.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 37400 Huron River Dr.)
- 9:06 a.m. – Fight (block of 29400 W. I-94)
- 5:40 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6770 Merriman)
- 5:52 p.m. – OUIL (block of 35800 Eureka)
- 6:09 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 15000 Mesa Way)
- 6:54 p.m. – OUIL (block of 13000 Middlebelt)
- 7:37 p.m. – Larceny (block of 6110 Second)
- 8:48 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 6380 Cogswell)
- 11:59 p.m. – JC/R (block of 39000 Wyoming)

Ladach Is New Head Football Coach at Romulus High School

Matt Ladach has been selected as the new head football coach at Romulus High School. The RHS alumnus (Class of 1995) has a bachelor's degree in education (with a major in physical education) from Eastern Michigan University. He is currently employed as a PE teacher at Northville High School, where he also serves as chairman for the art, music, and PE departments.

Ladach's previous coaching experience includes five years as the assistant coach and defensive coordinator for the Northville Mustangs. He additionally coached at RHS during the 1998-1999 season, serving as an assistant to Mark Woodson (now the Athletics Department director for the Romulus Community Schools), whose highly successful coaching career included consecutive appearances in state playoffs.

Ladach says he's looking forward to meeting with Romulus players during Northville's spring break. He will also be interviewing candidates for assistant



Matt Ladach

coaching positions in the near future.

After selecting his staff and meeting his players, Ladach will make preparations for weight-room sessions, summer football camps, and summer passing leagues. □

School District Saves Taxpayers \$624,000 Through Debt Refinancing

Superintendent Joel R. Carr has announced that the Romulus Community Schools recently completed a successful refinancing program that will save taxpayers about \$624,000.

"The district used the expertise of its financial consultant (Stauder, Barch & Associates) and its bond underwriter (UBS Paine Webber) to achieve this significant savings on debt obligations," said Carr, who went on to explain that the process is comparable to a resident refinancing a mortgage on his/her home to take advantage of favorable interest rates.

"We are always trying our best to conduct our financial affairs in a prudent manner, and save Romulus taxpayers money whenever possible,"

he added.

The most recent refinancing program is the seventh that the district has carried out over a 14-year period, according to Carr. Cumulative savings from the seven refinancing programs amount to more than \$12 million.

REFINANCING PROGRAMS

YEAR	SAVINGS
1993	\$3,908,403
1993	926,091
1994	276,279
1998	1,327,076
2001	3,855,049
2003	1,450,157
2006	624,000
TOTAL	\$12,367,055

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Cory "Black History Month" Programs Inspire Community

Cory Elementary School's Black History Committee organized two outstanding student/parent/staff/community programs to celebrate African-American heritage. Committee members Rita Talley, Janice Barden, LaZonja Smith, Petra Pratt, Shirley Crowell, Sally Berger, and Rob Baty presented "Celebrating Our Heritage with Song" at Cory on February 8, and a "Soul Food Dinner" in the Romulus Middle School gymnasium on February 15.

Romulus City Councilwoman Ellen Craig-Bragg served as the mistress of ceremonies for "Celebrating with Song." Cory students Larlee Cohen, Andrianna Barden, Kharee Kimber, Diote Hill, Jamari Howard, Nia Washington, and Justus Howard joined students from the first-grade classrooms of Monica Harris and Paquita Simmons for individual readings and singing.

Clara Glosson of the Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church gave an impressive reading/singing rendition of "Escape to Freedom"; additional performances by the First Baptist Church's

youth and men's choirs, the Praise dance team, and the Union Grove Mass Choir were also noteworthy. Cory principal Dorothy West was treated to a rousing version of "Happy Birthday" as she welcomed the audience to her school.

The annual "Soul Food Dinner" – which is also a fund-raising event for Cory Elementary – was moved to the Middle School this year to accommodate its typically large crowd. Inveterate attendees say they look forward to the dinner music provided by the Middle School and High School jazz bands as well as all the delicious food.

School and City officials were on hand to work the serving lines for dinner. Board of Education members who volunteered to help out were president April Frayer, secretary Kenneth Mientkiewicz, and trustee Cheryle Buckley; City officials included Mayor Alan R. Lambert, Clerk Linda Choate, and Council members Craig-Bragg, John Barden, and Harry Crout.

For photos of the "Celebrating with Song" program, please see page 7. □

Board Honors McLachlan

The Romulus Board of Education honored Romulus Middle School student Ryan McLachlan for earning the Boy Scouts of America's coveted Eagle Badge. McLachlan, a member of the Gibraltar Boy Scouts Troop #1232, was mentored by Scoutmaster Adam Jewell.

The Board's resolution commended McLachlan for completing his Eagle community-service project, which in-

involved the collection of over 300 books for the library cart at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. McLachlan was also cited for earning 22 merit badges in disciplines such as cooking, camping, environmental science, emergency preparedness, first aid, entrepreneurship, and music, as well as for demonstrating leadership skills in his troop and academic excellence at school. □



The Romulus Board of Education recently honored Ryan McLachlan (center) with a special resolution for earning the Boy Scouts of America's coveted Eagle Badge. Also pictured are his parents, Rob and Theresa McLachlan.

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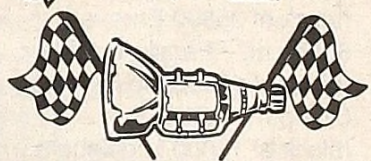
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Black History Month



Among those who participated in Cory Elementary's recent "Celebrating Our Heritage with Song" program were: (from left) front – Diante Hill, Jamari Howard, and Nia Washington; back – Romulus City Council members Ellen Craig-Bragg and John Barden, Janice Barden, Ronda Askew, and Clara Glosson.



Others who took part in Cory's Black History Month program included: (from left) front – Azia Jackson, Caleb Helms, Kharee Kimber, William Graves, and Kayla Kemp; back – Janice Barden, Alexis Bass, Cayla Williams, Justus Howard, Andrianna Barden, Sierra Brown, Miyonna Barden-Clark, Destiny Leach, Paquita Simmons, and Monica Harris.



Singing several inspiring selections were members of the First Baptist Church Men's Choir: (from left) front – Lamar Williams, Leroy Talley, Rolan Key, and Deacon Bill Griffin; back – Deacon Eric Talley, Reverend Charles P. Woolridge, Minister Ezell Agnew, and Deacon Kevin Baines.



Performers from the outstanding Union Grove Church Choir included: (from left) front – Charity Coleman, Jamie Umstead, Linda Cole, Josie Hardriet, and Alma London; back – Lynn Boyd, Geraldine Alexander, Betty Williams, Bobby Rison, Reverend John J. Cole, Sr., and Callie Williams.

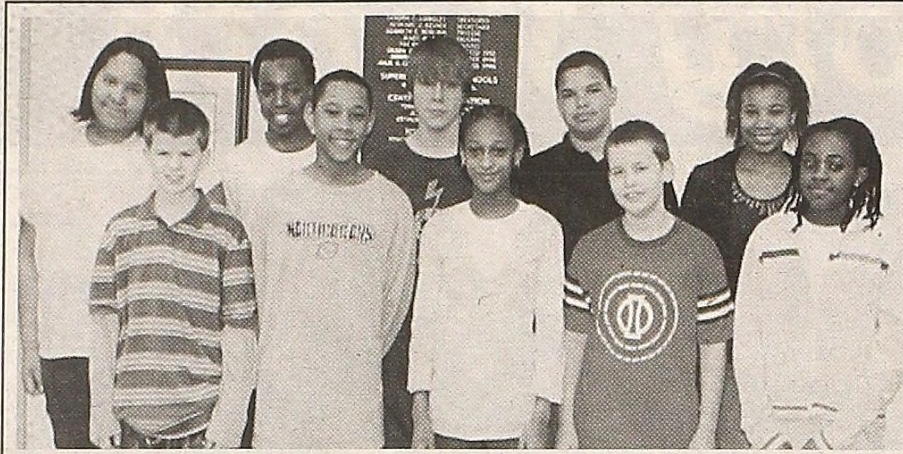


Also giving an impressive performance were members of the First Baptist Church Youth Choir: (from left) front – Kaivon Barker, Cheyenne Askew, Samantha Stewart, and Devonna Stewart; back – Lamar Williams (choir director), Rolan Key, and Leroy Talley.



Praise Dance Team members who made several noteworthy performances were: (from left) front – Shaura Thomas-Pearsall, Markisha Cooper, and Lawana Cranford; back – Sophia Logan, Jackie Grundy, Eboni Talley, and Tina Talley.

Merchants Support RMS MEAP



RMS students who won raffle prizes for maintaining perfect attendance during this year's Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) testing period were: (from left) front – Ryan Genigeski, Shaquille Tipton, Nicole Anderson, Lucas Molic, and Aprell Arthur; back – Iysha Martin, Kiwanis Chestnut, Bryan Moore, Devin Spranger, and Shanique Steward.

Romulus Middle School principal Phyllis Adkins was pleased with the outpouring of support that her school received during the annual administration of the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP). Parent coordinators Carrol Norman, Cindia Hensley, and Glenn Hensley organized a rewards program that encouraged perfect attendance during the two-week test period by making students who never missed a day eligible for raffle prizes donated by area merchants. Altogether, 177 students qualified for the raffle, which featured 26 prizes donated by 13 merchants.

Adkins expressed her sincere appreciation to the following businesses:

- Bilal's Barber Shop
- Captain Nemo's Submarine Shop
- Cottage Inn Pizza
- Countrywood Florist
- Dave's & Co. Barber Shop
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- Hair Sensations
- Leonardo's Ristorante
- Louie's Restaurant
- Romulus House Restaurant
- Romulus Lanes
- Romulus Tanning and Nails
- Wohlfeil's Pet Supply □

RES Dinner Honors Parents

Romulus Elementary School principal Lynne Mossoian was pleased to welcome 57 parents and special guests to her semiannual Home-School Connection recognition dinner. The program honors parents who have worked with the school to help their children attain educational success.

"Romulus Elementary now has approximately 60% of its parents qualifying for these dinners," said Mossoian. "This compares favorably to 45% who qualified just two years ago, when the program was initiated."

Parents became eligible to attend Mossoian's dinner by completing the following tasks during the first semester of the school year:

- attending parent-teacher conferences
- signing off on daily homework logs
- signing off on daily reading logs
- participating in at least one special school activity such as Science and Math Night, the Snowflake Dance, or Pastry for Parents, OR attending an evening parent workshop, OR chaperoning a field trip, OR volunteering in the classroom, in the library, or on the Parents as Educational Partners committee.

Mossoian also introduced the guest speaker for the evening, City of Romu-

lus Recreation Department director Herb Buckley, as well as special guests Kenneth Mientkiewicz, secretary of the Romulus Board of Education, and Cheryle Buckley, Board trustee.

Guest speaker Buckley talked about the teamwork that is so essential in the child-parent-teacher support triangle.

"My mother had 10 children, and she had everything she could do to keep us going," he said. "She didn't have time to come to the school. But, our neighbors all watched out for us, and if we did something wrong, they called our parents right away."

"Today, things are different," he continued. "That's why it is so important for parents to be active in their child's education, know their child's teacher, and know about their child's school activities and events."

Principal Mossoian praised her students' parents for maintaining an overall 80% compliance with signing off on homework and reading log sheets.

"This is a very important part of parent involvement," she stated. "It provides a strong framework for students to work from, gives them encouragement, and show them that their parents are truly interested in their school work."

For photos, please see page 9. □

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RES Parent Dinner



Among those who attended Romulus Elementary's Parent Recognition Dinner were: (from left) front – Janet Turner, LaZonja Smith, Amy Soard, Cheryl Kidd, and Tinetta Hall; back – Debra Roper and Young Joo.



Also taking part in the special event were: (from left) Joni Burgess, Sean Burgess, Mabel Brown, Stacey Westley, John Brown, Rick Zavitz, and Marsha Zavitz ...



... (from left) front – Camilla Williams, Cynthia Gaudy, Vonda Hampton, and Paula Valentik; back – Henry Williams and Gloria Haywood ...



... (from left) Biafra Pierce, Carl Pierce, Debra Hester, Dontonio Thompson, and Keesha Thompson ...



... and (from left) front – Tina Stuart, Tyreen Thomas, Lisa Colvin, Martha Collison, and Pamela Sands; back – Rochelle Watson (fourth-grade teacher) and Nakia Plummer (fifth-grade teacher).

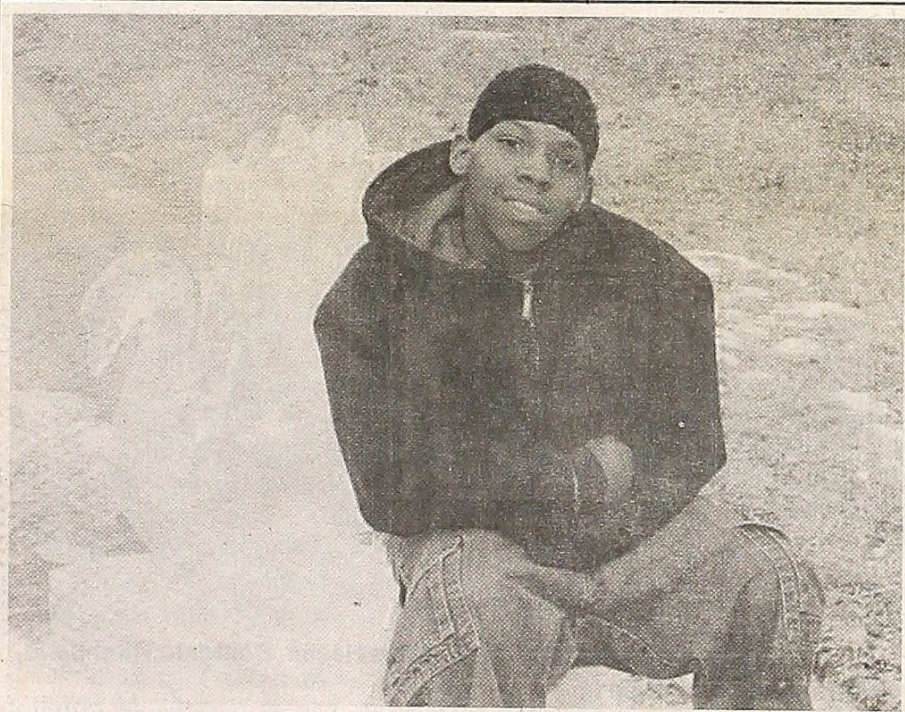


Principal Lynne Mossoian (back) welcomed special guests, including (from left) Board of Education secretary Ken Mientkiewicz, Ron Buckley, Board trustee Cheryl Buckley, and guest speaker Herb Buckley.

Ice-carving Awards



Romulus High School senior Nedra Harris proudly displayed the certificate that she received for her recent fourth-place finish in the Plymouth Ice Carving Festival's high-school division. Romulus Board of Education president April Frayer presented Harris with the award during the Board's February 13 meeting.



Posing with the swan that earned him a third-place finish in the Plymouth Ice Carving Festival's high-school division was Romulus High School junior Marcus Richardson.

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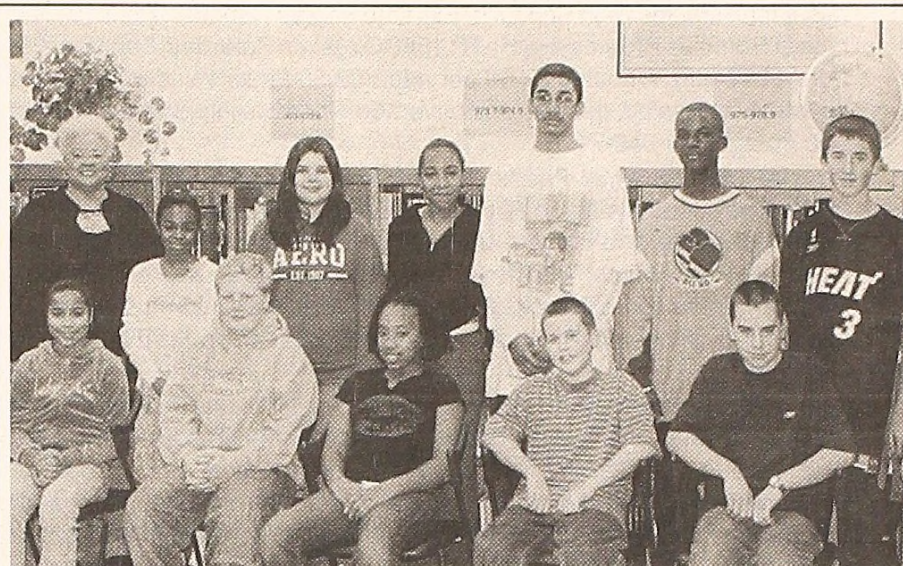
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Students Honored



Romulus Middle School principal Phyllis Adkins (back, left) was pleased to present her school's February Students of the Month: (from left) front – Brooke Graham, Loren Adams, Briana Glenn, Lucas Molic, and Jesse McGrane; back – Domonique Johnson, Rachelle Bovee, Jasmine Whitman, Deandray Buckley, Brandon Davis, and Zachary Nastal.



RMS staff members who attended the "Student of the Month" recognition ceremony to present the awards included: (from left) front – Dan McCabe, Kathleen Forrest, Betty Santo, and Melika Dixon; back – Jessika Sorg, Brian Wietfeld, Joel Hockin, and Emily Wiczorek.

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Community Calendar

- **Spaghetti Dinner Benefits Robotics Team** – A spaghetti-dinner fundraiser for Romulus High School's "Extreme Eagles Robotics Team" will be held at Romulus Progressive Hall (11580 Ozga) on Saturday, February 25, from 4 to 7 p.m. A cost of \$7.50 per adult/\$3.50 for kids under 12 covers spaghetti, roll, salad, dessert, and beverage. For more information, contact Eric Poet at 734-942-7195.
- **Special Services at St. Paul's** – St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, located the corner of Ellis and Craig streets in New Boston, will hold special Ash Wednesday and Lenten midweek services on the following dates: March 1 (Repentance; with Holy Communion), March 8 (Redemption), March 15 (Imputation), March 22 (Reconciliation), March 29 (Justification), and April 5 (Atonement). All services will begin at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.
- **Family Reading and Science Programs** – The Romulus Public Library's final "Life Through the Ages" program – "Sensational Cenozoic: Back to the Sea" – will be held at the library (11121 South Wayne Road, south of Goddard) from 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 4. This free, hands-on program for kids ages 6 to 11 will provide families with a chance to read and learn together about the fossil record and geological time, with an in-depth look at many fascinating organisms. For information, call 734-942-7589.
- **New Teen Book and Pizza Club Meets** – The newly formed Teen Book and Pizza Club will meet at the Romulus Public Library (located at 11121 South Wayne Road, south of Goddard) at 6 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. (Next meeting: March 7.) The goal of the group is to promote great books and lively discussion. For more information, call 734-942-7589.
- **"Second Monday" Book Club** – Meetings of the Romulus Public Library's new Second Monday Book Club – open to everyone 18 and older – are held at the Romulus Public Library (11121 South Wayne Road, south of Goddard) from 7 to 8:15 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. Advance registration is not required; just read the suggested book, then drop in. Copies of the suggested books will be available at the library, or library staff members can assist you in getting an interlibrary loan. Books planned for upcoming discussions include: *Dearly Devoted Dexter* (a mystery) by Jeff Lindsay (March 13); *The Great Gatsby* (classic fiction) by F. Scott Fitzgerald (April 10); *Beautiful Jim Key* (nonfiction) by Mim Eichler Rivas (May 8); and *Chocolat* (fiction) by Joanne Harris. For information, call 734-942-7589.
- **BINGO!** – Enjoy an evening of BINGO! at Romulus Progressive Club (11580 Ozga) on Sunday, March 19, from 4 to 11 p.m. Highlights of the event will include dinner, door prizes, and 50/50 raffles. *Must be 18 to play.* For more information, call Jim VanMeer (734-941-3044).
- **"Stress Management for Health and Well Being"** – The last of three "Living Nutritiously" programs – presented by Kristen M. Pierce, RD, NASM-CPT, in conjunction with the Romulus Public Library and the Friends of the Romulus Public Library – will be held at the library (11121 South Wayne Road, south of Goddard) at 6:45 p.m. on Wednesday, March 22. The program is free; advance registration is required. Call 734-942-7589.
- **Spring Craft Show** – Romulus Progressive Hall (11580 Ozga) will host a Spring Craft Show on Saturday, April 29, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Featured for sale will be hand-painted items, jewelry, baskets, wreaths, candles, purses, woodcraft items, candy, Avon, Mary Kay, Country Crafts, and much, much more. Refreshments will also be available. For more info, call 941-3044.
- **Bowl-A-Rama Benefits Animal Shelter** – Romulus Lanes will host a 9-Pin No-Tap Tournament at 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 29, to benefit the Friends of the Romulus Animal Shelter Fund. Handicap doubles and singles events will be scheduled. Cost is \$25 per person per event or \$40 per person for two events. (Ladies' and men's mystery games, snacks, and cash prizes included.) Other highlights will include a 50/50 raffle and other jackpots. Early registration is strongly urged, since space is limited. For complete rules and/or other information, call Romulus Lanes (734-941-6200), Councilman Bill Wadsworth (941-0616), Joe Ozog (941-3466), or Frank Ayers (734-729-7467).

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 734-992-2052; or call 734-941-1907

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SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 am

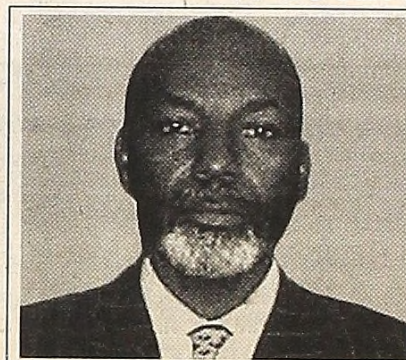
Sunday Youth Church: 11:00 am

Sunday School: 9:30 am

Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 6:00 pm

Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 pm

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My name is Matthew Koester and I am a Senior at Romulus High School. I have noticed a high pollution rate in Belleville Lake, and for my senior project I intend to help clean up. I encourage all of you to lend a helping hand, and give your time and efforts to our neighboring city.

Come help clean the shores of Belleville Lake to help improve the aquatic atmosphere. This is a great opportunity to enhance the cleanliness of the city.

For more information, pick up a brochure at Fred C. Fischer Library, 167 4th Street, Belleville, MI 48111.

I hope all of you will display acts of pure philanthropy and contribute to the City of Belleville. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Romulus High School Senior Project
Matthew Koester

Do your part. Find out what you can do by contacting
 City Hall, 6 Main Street, Belleville, MI 48111.

RHS Students Recognized for Superior Academics

Congratulations to the following Romulus High School students, whose hard work and dedication earned them a spot on the honor roll for the third marking period of the 2005-2006 school year.

ALL A's

Students on the "All A's" roll maintained a grade point average of 4.00 or above.

Ninth Grade

Melissa Dufore, David Forbush, Michael Lammers, and James McGlynn.

Tenth Grade

Chelsea Earby, Vaughn Liendo, Arielle Morgan, and Tranay Tanner.

Eleventh Grade

Jennifer Dick, Jessica Dick, Aurielle McCauley, Jessica Mills, and Jetaun Robinson.

Twelfth Grade

Carla Anderson, Adam DeLay, Doloris Garry, Jennifer Lammers, Jonathan McLachlan, and Patricia Silvey.

HIGH HONORS

Students on the "High Honors" roll maintained a grade point average of 3.50 to 3.99.

Ninth Grade

Faith Adkins, Jawan Bailey, Samantha Bankey, Kyla Barker, Cody Barnes, Derek Bennett, Filmore Bouldes, Meriah Chapman, Nicholas Curry, Don Davis,

Emily Davis, Lachelle Devoe, Arianna Diebel, Dwayne Dixon, Travis Dockery, Kathryn Forth, Brittany Frazier, DiChelle Freeman, Christina Gillespie, Patrick Harrison, Chelsea Hay, DeShawna Hill, Ashlee Hood, Derek Kinney, Gary Nemeth, Randall Norfleet, Latrice Parnell, Candace Poet, Raymond Reed, Brittany Rodgers, Richard Rutherford, Narjis Sheikh, Jessica Sylvester, Adam Thornsby, Brittany Turner, Chelsea Tyree, Samantha Watson, Kanaya Williams, and Amanda Zavitz.

Tenth Grade

Antonio Armstrong, Rachel Arthur, Antoine Baines, Frances Cistrunk, Matthew Destrampe, Brittany Frazier, Dierrie Golden, Crystal Greer, Kristina Hall, Kourtney Hamilton, Prince Harper, Maura Harris, Steven Hawes, Lauren Hidenfelter, Marjus Hoxha, Tanisha Hubbard, Katrina Jadzinski, Leanna Pioli, Fred Sirhan, John Stanford, Samantha Stewart, Tommy Taylor, Abigail Tieppo, and Demar Watkins.

Eleventh Grade

Shawn Abney, Andrew Boyd, Katherine Cobb, Larhonda Colvin, Daniel Cross, Yetunde Emanuel, Cassandra Graven, Tiffany Gray, Samuel Jackson, Joy Jendritz, Krystal McCloud, Richelle Mortzfield, Tamila Myles, Lauren Nierman, Amna Sheikh, Kevin Stobbe, Erika

Wasson, Shakita Wilson, Theresa Windom, and Brittany Wright.

Twelfth Grade

Ashley Austin, Ronald Baker, Katherine Banks, Megan Bearman, Richard Bennett, Lindsay Beregsasy, Bradley Bills, Landria Buckley, Ayibitari Burutolu, Joshua Carroll, Ronald Carter, Carmen Coleman, Brittney Garrison, Dean Gilbert, Carl Gillespie, Ashley Horyn, Sara Hurt, Danielle Keller, Courtney MacDougall, Tiffani McCloud, Joy McWilliams, Ashley Moss, Tiffany Motsch, Chrisma Nathaniel, Amanda Nowicki, Jonathan Rafalski, Timothy Reed, Cecily Ricer, Jeffrey Taylor, Jeremy Trevorow, Megan Whalen, and Jessica Workman.

HONORS

Students on the "Honors" roll maintained a grade point average of 3.00 to 3.49.

Ninth Grade

Jasmine Abney, Christine Amis, Kiara Ashley, Jazmine Bass, Antonette Battle, Taishawn Blackmon, Raheem Brown, Brad Burcroff, Krystal Burrell, Rodney Cofield, Stephen Conner, Toni Cross, Timothy Dalton, Kayla Dizney, Darius Ellis, Desi'Ray Ellison, Matthew Franklin, Shalonda Frye, Le'Aia Gilkey, Sarah Godfrey, Tiara Green, Travis Griffin, Melissa Groce, Brianna Grover, Gary Hemmingway, Nicole Hewitt, Joshua

Hill-Barnes, Josiah Jackson, Sarah James, Lauren Jones, Katie Koester, Michella Langston, Brittany Lewis, Brandyn Martin, Alexis Moore, Stephanie Mortzfield, Tamica Mosley, Cheyenne Oakley, Christina Ottenbreit, Jennifer Perry, Nicolette Porter, Rashae Pree, Demitrius Price, Alexis Riley, Shaunte Roberts, Raven Robertson, Amanda Roehrich, Holly Schonscheck, Donnavin Searcy, Rachel Shackleford, Cicely Shaw, Dion Shepherd, Carlos Sims, William Steele, Breonn Stephens, Brianni Taylor, Kaela Torres, Latisha Ware, La'Tonya Warlix, Mary Watts, Sam Wells, and Alise Whalen.

Tenth Grade

Dua Al-Jabery, Jordan Bowden, Dean Burcroff, Tiffani Cannon, Tiffany Conradson, Gregory Cooper, JoAnna Ezell, Christopher Floyd, Alfonso Garcia, Tia Hall, Anjenette Hood, Gerald Horton, James Hoskinson, Idiakosa Igbinobaro, Shauntez Johnson, Deonne Jones, Justin Kuderik, Kristin Leigh, Michael Lewis, Rebecca Lewkowicz, Brittney Losacco, Valencia Mathews, Jerry McIntosh, Christopher McQuiston, Amanda Menser, Alecia Morgan, Corey Neely, Marcus Nixon, Melissa Peterson, Jasmine Rutherford, Stephanie Rutherford, Kyle Sherwood,

continued on page 14

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RHS Eagles Basketball Team Prepares for Tournament Run



The Romulus High School Eagles basketball team is hoping to improve on its 11-5 (6-3 Mega Red Division) record and start another long state tournament run. Pictured are: (from left) front - Shauntez Johnson, Corey McNulty, Tommie Clark, Ronald Baker, Kevin Smith, Leonard Linton, and Rodrick Walker; back - Nate Oats (head coach), Saddi Washington (assistant coach), Marquis Williams, Antoine James, Dwayne Edwards, Devin Searcy, Alex McMillian, Dominique Buckley, Rashawn Walker (student assistant), Joshua Baker (assistant coach), and Steve Glenn (assistant coach).

Romulus High School Students Honored for Superior Academics

continued from page 13

Chenise Smith, Jasmine Stephens, Conishia Steward, Christina Wade, Gregory Weaver, Julian Williams, and Clara Windom.

Eleventh Grade

Shon Aggison, William Braden, Briana Bray, Jason Britton, Michael Bujak, Akeem Burkes, Anna Bustamante, Jessica Donald, Carissa Franklin, Shalayia

Frye, Audrey Glenn, Angela Gondek, Edwina Jackson, Antoine James, Jessica James, Sarah Johnson, Joseph Kieszowski, Nicole Klages, Garrett Lefler, Alysa Long, Hillrod Lumpkin, Tiffany Penn, Brandon Perry, Brittnee Shreve, Courtney Smith, Eric Smith, Monay Smith, Tariq Stevenson, Patrick Sutter, Brittany Turner, Dakota Watson, Daryl Wilson, and Lorenzo Wilson.

Twelfth Grade

Kathryn Appel, Samantha Arnett-Butscher, Kristina Ball, Tondra Bland, Brittni Brown, Tiffany Claiborne, Shaneta Cotton, Brian DeMoisey, Justin Dockery, Katrell Duncan, Alexis Fondren, Amber Gondek, Nicole Goodman, Lindsay Green, Judith Hammond, Samina Haq, Whitney

Harley, Nedra Harris, Amanda Hollis, Brittany Howard, Jennifer Hunter, Riva Inman, Matthew Koester, Quinton Mark, Justin Maupin, Krystle McKay, Jessica Moore, Flenora Peacher, Anisa Rakic, Joshua Rivera, Thomas Rutherford, Jessica Schaf, Kevin Smith, Marques Smith, Mary Stewart, Siera Stewart, Beverly Studstill, Dennis Suiter, Brian Thiede, Ileana Usztics, Jeremiah Warren, Ashlee Wells, Monica Wells, and Patricia Williams.

Editor's note: The Romulus News welcomes honors, attendance, and citizenship rolls from all schools attended by Romulus students. To submit your school's list(s), please fax them to us at 734-992-2052. □

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

REGULAR MEETING, JANUARY 23, 2006

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, January 23, 2006, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President April Frayer.

Roll call showed members Frayer, Celeste Roscoe, Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Niema White, Betty Lenossi, Cheryle Buckley, and Thomas Kuderik present. Administrators present were: Joel R. Carr, Superintendent; Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources; and Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Frayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

01/06/7 Moved by Buckley, supported by White, to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

01/06/8 Moved by Lenossi, supported by Roscoe, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 9, 2006, as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

Mr. Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources, offered the following Personnel Actions for Board approval.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE – FYI: Kimberlee Fultz, Educational Leave, Bus Driver, Effective January 3, 2006 – June 16, 2006.

RESIGNATION: April Slater, Media Specialist, Romulus Middle School, Effective January 6, 2006.

01/06/9 Moved by Mientkiewicz, supported by Roscoe, to accept the Resignation of Personnel as submitted. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Bills for Payment

01/06/10 Moved by Buckley, supported by Roscoe, to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent of Schools. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Presentation – Preschool

Ms. Sharman Spieser appeared before the Board of Education to present an overview of the goals and objectives of the Preschool Initiative.

Barth Elementary School Field Trip – Mackinac Island

01/06/11 Moved by Roscoe, supported by Buckley, that the Board of Education approve a Field Trip to Mackinac Island (May 8–9, 2006) for Barth Elementary fifth-graders at no cost to the district. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Romulus High School Field Trip – Philadelphia, PA

01/06/12 Moved by White, supported by Roscoe, that the Board of Education approve a Field Trip to Philadelphia, PA (April 6–9, 2006) for the Romulus High School Advanced Placement History and Government classes, as presented, at no cost to the district. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Cafeteria Program and Equipment Update

Mr. Glen Nawa, Cafeteria Manager and a representative from Chartwells, appeared before the Board of Education to present the Cafeteria Operations Plan at no additional cost to the district. This plan outlines significant improvements for students in areas of food quality, safety, and speed of service.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

There were no communications and expressions from the public.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

The following Items of Interest were presented to the Board by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent: 1) Invitation from Mrs. Knight – Merriman; 2) Thank You to Mrs. Debbie Juriga, Wick Principal; 3) Thank You to Martin Luther King Day Volunteers; and 4) Reverend Arthur Willis – 15-year Anniversary Celebration.

QUESTIONS AND/OR CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Betty Lenossi extended a thank-you to staff and students for the Martin Luther King Day program.

Mrs. Niema White asked about the activities that are scheduled the same nights as Board meetings.

Mr. Kenneth Mientkiewicz extended an invitation to the Board to attend a meeting at RESA concerning fingerprint law on March 16, 2006, at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Mientkiewicz also distributed communications about the number of superintendent vacancies throughout the state, as well as an article about the "No Child Left Behind" law.

ADJOURNMENT:

01/06/13 Moved by Roscoe supported by Lenossi to adjourn. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

The Stork Arrived

Nathan Martin-Daniel Kasperek

Proudly announcing the birth of their first child, Nathan Martin-Daniel Kasperek, are Michael and Deanne Kasperek of Belleville, Michigan.

Nathan was born in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital (Ann Arbor, MI) at 2:17 p.m. on Wednesday, October 26, 2005, weighing in at 8 lbs., 7 oz., and measuring 20.75 in.

Among those giving the new arrival a warm welcome into the family were his paternal grandparents, Casmier and Carol Kasperek (Belleville), and his maternal grandparents, Danny and Alyse Leslie (Ypsilanti, MI). □



Nathan Kasperek

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

SPECIAL MEETING, JANUARY 30, 2006

The Special Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, January 30, 2006, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President April Frayer.

Roll call showed members Frayer, Celeste Roscoe, Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Niema White, Betty Lenossi, Cheryle Buckley, and Thomas Kuderik present. Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent, was also in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Frayer.

MASB Representatives – Mr. Carl Hartman and Mr. Peter Silveri

Mr. Peter Silveri, Michigan Association of School Boards, appeared before the Board of Education and gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining data on meetings held throughout December and January with staff and community relative to the district's superintendent search.

Mr. Carl Hartman, Michigan Association of School Boards, presented the Board with the brochure that is being distributed for the search for a superintendent. He further reviewed the time frame for applications and the selection of applicants to be interviewed.

ADJOURNMENT:

01/06/13 Moved by White, supported by Roscoe, to adjourn. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

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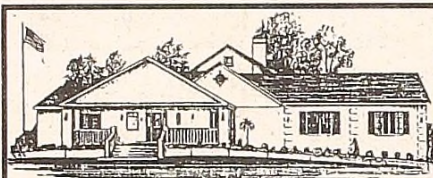
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Obituaries

Robert A. Pecsénye

The Romulus community lost a dear friend and protector on Saturday, February 11, 2006, when former Deputy Fire Chief Robert A. Pecsénye passed away at the age of 69.

Robert—born in Lincoln Park, Michigan, on Wednesday, April 1, 1936—was a member of the Romulus Fire Department for 41 years. Along with his membership in the American Legion (Wayne, MI) and involvement with the Boy Scouts (Lincoln Park) and Woodmen of the World, he enjoyed farming, refinishing furniture, collecting antiques and coins, and attending flea markets and swap meets.

Surviving Robert are his son, Charles E. (Sheila) Pecsénye (Romulus, MI), and a brother, Edward (Norma) Pecsénye (Lincoln Park).

Among those who preceded him in passing were his wife, Shirley (Opificius) Pecsénye; his parents, Edward J. and Nellie (Whitman) Pecsénye; and a half-brother, Earl Goerke.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, February 15, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Reverend Dr. Geoffrey G. Drutchas (St. Paul



Robert A. Pecsénye

United Church of Christ) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

Memorial tributes to St. Paul Church would be greatly appreciated by the Pecsénye family.

Eric R. Michniewicz

Eric R. Michniewicz of Belleville, Michigan, passed away on Sunday, February 19, 2006, at the age of 21.

Eric—born in Trenton, Michigan, on Saturday, June 9, 1984—was fondly known as "Sonny Boy."

A 2002 alumnus of Belleville High School, where he was a member of the Marching Band, Eric went on to graduate from ITT Technical Institute, earning an associate's degree in 2005. The customer service representative for Comair Airlines enjoyed computers and bowling.

Surviving Eric are his parents, Rob-

ert and Sandra J. (McCaig) Michniewicz (Belleville); 2 half-sisters, Tammy (Tom) Turner (Dearborn, MI) and Michelle Amram (Ann Arbor, MI); a nephew, Conor; and a niece, Sarah.

A funeral service was held on Thursday, February 23, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Father Alexander Wyrwal (St. Stephen Catholic Church, New Boston, MI) officiating. Cremation rites will be accorded.

Memorial tributes to the Penrickton Center for the Blind would be greatly appreciated by the Michniewicz family.

Anna "Lisa" Zbikowski

Anna "Lisa" Zbikowski of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Monday, February 6, 2006, at the age of 57.

Lisa—a native of Chicago, Illinois—was born on Friday, June 18, 1948. An Eastern Michigan University graduate with a bachelor of science degree in political science and history, she was employed as an operations officer in the banking industry.

Her many interests included her flower garden, swimming pool, and annual Independence Day party, as well as playing softball, bowling (especially Sunday Sudsers and Tuesday Night Mixed leagues), and speed reading.

Surviving Lisa are her husband, Thomas J. "Tom" Zbikowski, and a brother, Edward Dashkin (Boynton Beach, FL).

Among those who preceded her in passing was her mother, Bernice Tessler.

A funeral service was held on Friday, February 10, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Reverend William Kren (Community United Methodist Church, Romulus) officiating. Cremation rites were accorded.

Memorial tributes to any charitable organization, or to the family for later designation, will be greatly appreciated by the Zbikowski family. □

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